

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 INR-10  
MED-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 HA-05 CA-01 OES-07 CIAE-00  
HEW-06 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PC-05 PM-05  
OC-06 CCO-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00 SCS-06 /166 W  
-----077983 191134Z /21

O R 191040Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0131

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE

NAVCOMSTA DIEGO GARCIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

CLARK AFB NIACT IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL, ATLANTA, GA

HQ PACAF

USS FOX

NAVAL HOSPITAL, SUBIC BAY

CMEF

CINCPACFLT

JCS WASHDC

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CDRUSACSG FT SHAFTER HI

CINCMAC SCOTT AFB IL

TRIPLER ARMY MED CEN HONOLULU HI

SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS COLOMBO 1810

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; STATE FOR OFDA; GENEVA PASS TO UNDRO

CLARK AFB FOR USAF HOSPITAL

ATTN: AID/OFDA AND FM/CSD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, MV

SUBJ: SECOND GOVERNMENT OF MALDIVES REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

REF: (A) COLOMBO 1783; (B) CINCPAC 070403Z APR 78; (C)

DACCA 2158 (AIDAC); (D) COLOMBO 1698

1. SITUATION

EMBASSY RECEIVED OFFICIAL REQUEST FROM GOVERNMENT OF MALDIVES (GOM) APRIL 18 FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IN COMBATTING CHOLERA EPIDEMIC. INFORMATION ON GOM ANTICIPATED REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED REF A WAS BASED ON SITUATION AT TIME JAMEEL LEFT MALE SEVERAL DAYS AGO. PRESIDENT NASIR HAS ASSUMED COORDINATING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHOLERA EPIDEMIC. SECOND GOM REQUEST IS RESULT OF APRIL 18 MEETING PRESIDENT HAD WITH KEY LOCAL AND FOREIGN MEDICAL AND HEALTH PERSONNEL. CHOLERA IS CONTINUING TO SPREAD. BASED ON MEDICAL ADVICE PRESIDENT DECIDED ON POLICY OF ELIMINATION RATHER THAN CONTAINMENT.

2. ALL SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN CLOSED INDEFINITELY AND ALL PUBLIC GATHERINGS CANCELLED. PRESIDENT ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT COUNTRY'S LIVELIHOOD. FISHING, MAIN NON-TOURIST INDUSTRY, HAS VIRTUALLY CEASED. FOURTEEN DOCTORS NOW IN MALDIVES; FOUR ADDITIONAL DOCTORS BEING RECRUITED IN SRI LANKA.

3. ACTIONS REQUESTED:

DIEGO GARCIA AND CLARK AIR FORCE BASE: IMMEDIATE AUTHORIZATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPATCHING FOLLOWING:

(A) DIEGO GARCIA: ONE DOCTOR AND FOUR CORPSMEN TO MALE (PARA 2A, REF B).

(B) CLARK AIR FORCE BASE: ONE AIR TRANSPORTABLE HOSPITAL (ATH-1) WITH THREE PHYSICIANS AND 26 SUPPORT PERSONNEL (PARA UNCLASSIFIED

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2B, REF B).

(C) ADVISE ETA, AIRCRAFT TYPE AND NUMBER, AIRCRAFT WEIGHT, AND NAMES OF CREWS AND MEDICAL PERSONNEL. AMERICAN EMBASSY OFFICER FROM COLOMBO MAY BE IN MALDIVES TO MEET AND ASSIST. IF NOT, MALE UN REP P.O. LENNARTSSON WILL ASSIST. (PHONE: MALE 571, 661, OR 446). THIS MESSAGE CONSTITUTES FLIGHT CLEARANCE FOR MALE. AIRCRAFT SORTIE SCHEDULING SHOULD BE MADE WITH CONSIDERATION THAT REFUELING IS NOT POSSIBLE AT HULULE (MALE) AND THAT RUNWAY WEIGHT BEARING CAPACITY WILL ACCOMMODATE 737-TYPE AIRCRAFT. ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF OVER-FLIGHT AND LANDING SRI LANKA REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE.

4. DACCA: CHOLERA RESEARCH CENTER: DESPATCH CHOLERA TEAM OFFERED REF C. ADVISE OF ETA MALDIVES. IF UNABLE TO BOOK THROUGH TO MALE, BOOK TO COLOMBO AND ADVISE. EMBASSY WILL MAARRANGE FOR ACCOMMODATIONS COLOMBO AND TRAVEL TO MALE. NO VISAS REQUIRED FOR MALDIVES; VISAS FOR SRI LANKA AVAILABLE AT AIRPORT.

5. DEPARTMENT: AS REQUESTED PARA 3, REF D, PLEASE ADVISE ON PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING AUTHORIZATION TO COMMIT ADDITIONAL

DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS.

6. COMMENT.

EMBASSY AND UN REPS HAVE BEEN MOST IMPRESSED BY GOM'S CAUTIOUS APPROACH ON CHOLERA EPIDEMIC AND ITS OBVIOUS DESIRE TO AVOID DUPLICATION AND WASTE OF ASSISTANCE. THERE IS SOME FEELING HERE THAT MODEST BUILDUP GOM NOW WANTS IS OVERDUE. EMBASSY HOPES USG CAN RESPOND PROMPTLY TO GOM REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.

WRIGGINS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, EPIDEMICS, CHOLERA  
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**Draft Date:** 19 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SECOND GOVERNMENT OF MALDIVES REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE  
**TAGS:** SWEL, MV, US  
**To:** STATE  
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